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April 27, 2004

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Examiner John Pickett	USPTO	703.872.9306	703.305.8321

**From:** Monica M. Farrell,  
Patent Practice Coordinator

**Total Pages:** 6

**Direct Dial:** 215.965.1274

**Re:** U.S. Patent Application No. 09/936,757

**Message:** Attached is a copy of a Response submitted on November 12, 2003, along with a copy of the return postcard and copy of both sides of Check No. 85847. Kindly enter the response and forward to Examiner Pickett as soon as possible. Thank you.

210059.0397/011776

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY: Cristine Clark-Robinson Date: Nov. 12, 2003

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Patent Application of:  
Katsuhiko Kumakura *et al.*

Conf. No.: 8993

Appln. No.: 09/936,757

Filing Date: September 17, 2001

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Group Art Unit: 3728  
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Examiner: John G. Pickett  
:  
Attorney Docket No.: 10059-397US  
(P22089-03)

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

The following is a response to an Office Communication, dated October 21, 2003. Our firm check in the amount of \$172.00 is enclosed herewith to pay for two extra independent claims filed in a Supplemental Amendment, dated September 29, 2003.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 14-18 are currently pending in the application. The Response to Office Communication pays the extra claim fee as noted. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including the above-listed claims is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KATSUHIKO KUMAKURA *et al.*

November 11, 2003  
(Date)

By: Martin G. Belisario

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